

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Non-elected claims 1-6 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application for these claims.

Claim 7 has been amended to more precisely define the invention. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at page 4, lines 13-17 and page 5, lines 25-32; page 8, lines 27-30, page 9, lines 12-15; and Figs. 1-5.

An updated Application Data Sheet was filed May 5, 2009 containing the mailing address of each inventor, each of whom is a foreign national. Accordingly, the Declaration should now be in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a).

The rejection of claim 7 under the 2nd paragraph of 35 USC § 112 as being indefinite is believed obviated by the amendments made therein. Claim 7 has also been amended to incorporate the recitation of claim 8, which has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

The rejection of claim 17 under the 2nd paragraph of 35 USC § 112 is believed obviated by its cancellation.

The rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Marx (U.S. 1,993,972) is believed obviated in view of the incorporation of claim 8 therein, which has been indicated by the Examiner as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants have also studied the citation of Marx and respectfully submit that of claim 7 as amended, patentably distinguishes over Marx. Since allowable subject matter is recited in claim 7, a detailed discussion of Marx will not appear herein.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this ground of rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments to the claims, and the remarks presented herein, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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